

JPRS 76750

3 November 1980

West Europe Report

No. 1649



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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CONTENTS

COUNTRY SECTION

DENMARK

Danish Industry Cuts Oil Consumption, Total Energy Use (Kermit Norlund; BERLINGSKE TIDENDE, 8 Oct 80)	1
Tax Increases Account for Large Drop in Buying Power (MANEDS BORSEN, Oct 80)	3
Briefs	
Greenland Budget Deficit	5
Greenland Oil Exploration	5
Denmark Increases Greenland Aid	5
New Radar System Funding	6

FINLAND

Prime Minister Koivisto Discusses Relations With USSR (Mauno Koivisto Interview; UUSI SUOMI, 21 Sep 80)	7
Poll Shows Conservatives Continue Growth, SKDL Decline (HELSINGIN SANOMAT, 28 Sep 80)	17
Forecast Sees Population Drop of 1 Million by 2050 (HELSINGIN SANOMAT, 27 Sep 80)	22
Briefs	
Education Protocol With USSR	25

FRANCE

UDF Member Discusses Pre-, Post-Election Strategy (Roger Chinaud Interview; LE MONDE, 8 Oct 80)	26
Satellite Program Now in Active Phase (J.-F. Augereau; LE MONDE, 30 Sep 80)	31

Briefs		
Matra To Produce Antiaircraft		32
GREECE		
Industrial Production Remains Stagnant		
(I KATHIMERINI, 24 Sep 80)		33
Banking System, Changes Reported		
(I KATHIMERINI, 20 Sep 80)		35
New Procedures for Passport Issuance Reported		
(N. Krikis; TO VIMA, 24 Sep 80)		37
NETHERLANDS		
PvdA's Den Uyl Asks CDA To Change Policies		
(NRC HANDELSBLAD, 20 Sep 80)		39
Government Seeks Solution to Country's Economic Problems		
(ALGEMEEN NEDERLANDS PERSBUREAU, 8 Oct 80)		41
CDA Seeks Tax Cut		
No Consensus Among Parties		
Dutch Government Studies Suriname's Treaty Request		
(ALGEMEEN NEDERLANDS PERSBUREAU, 3 Oct 80)		45
Briefs		
Antimilitarists Protest Against NATO		47
D'66: Earlier Election Necessary		47
NORWAY		
Labor Party Paper Previews Fall Session of Parliament		
(Per-Arne Bjerke; ARBEIDERBLADET, 30 Sep 80)		48
Poll Shows 58 Percent Favor Prestockage in Country		
(Egil Sundar; AFTENPOSTEN, 27 Sep 80)		50
Poll Shows Both Labor and Conservative Parties Down		
(AFTENPOSTEN, 27 Sep 80)		52
Questions at Shipping Talks With USSR Viewed		
(Kjell Dragnes; AFTENPOSTEN, 30 Sep 80)		54
Briefs		
Gerhardsen Now for Prestockage		56
Parties on Abortion Issue		56

DANISH INDUSTRY CUTS OIL CONSUMPTION, TOTAL ENERGY USE

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 8 Oct 80 p 9

[Article by Kermit Nerlund]

[Text] Danish industry is dissatisfied that its willingness so far to cut its energy consumption is being questioned, at the same time as it can demonstrate big cuts in its oil consumption, and the number of applications for subsidies for energy-saving measures are piling up at the Technology Board.

The background to the dissatisfaction are statements made by Minister of Energy Poul Nielson, who yesterday mentioned the possibility of an energy tax for industry, although the minister pointed out that there are no immediate plans.

Oil Consumption Cut

"Since 1973 Danish industry has cut its oil consumption by more than 10 percent, partly through savings and partly through conversion to coal," Hans-Erik Hansen, deputy director of the Federation of Danish Industries states.

He goes on to say that, already 3-4 months ago, the entire blanket grant of 85 million kroner for subsidies for energy-saving measures in production plants had been used up. Since then applications have been piling up at the Technology Board, which, however, will not be able to start considering them until the Folketing has granted 90 million kroner for 1981.

At the Technology Board, Leif Christoffersen, chief of section, confirms that they are awaiting the adoption of the budget, and that they probably will have more than 100 applications on hand by the turn of the year. They estimate that more than half of the 1981 grant will be used to cover these applications.

Flat Refusal

The possibility of an energy tax is met with a flat refusal on the part of the Federation of Danish Industries.

"The very idea of an energy tax on the oil consumption of the industries is completely absurd. The industrial enterprises already have an extremely strong incentive to cut their energy consumption. An energy tax will increase the production costs and will have the same unfortunate effect as, for example, higher interest rates, a higher wage level or heavier taxes," Chr Einfeldt deputy director says.

He points out that the countries with which we are competing do not burden their production with similar taxes. That is why such a tax would weaken the Danish competitive power.

7262

CSO: 3106

TAX INCREASES ACCOUNT FOR LARGE DROP IN BUYING POWER

Copenhagen MÅNEDS BØRSEN in Danish Oct 80 p 20

[Text] The Danish economy is now seriously losing its ability to keep up with things. The industries are no longer able to maintain the rate of increase in their turnover from the beginning of the year, building activities are at their very lowest level, and retail sales are dropping off continuously. There is every indication that the decline of the Danish economy will continue during the coming year. The most recent increases in taxes and indirect taxes, coupled with the higher income taxes from the turn of the year, put a distinct damper on the demand from the domestic market, and the international recession will be particularly felt in the export markets.

The turnover of the industries was, in the second quarter, 15 percent above that of the second quarter of 1979. If the inflation is disregarded, the increase in turnover was not quite as impressive, viz. only of 1 percent. In the first quarter, the real increase in turnover was of 9 percent.

It is the domestic market that is failing. During the first quarter, the industries were able to increase their sales by 7 percent, measured in terms of fixed prices, but, during the second quarter, sales in the domestic market dropped by approximately 4 percent. Throughout the first half of the year, the sales to export markets were at an impressively high level, although there were clear signs of a weakening trend at the end of the period. Sales to the export markets thus rose by as much as 12 percent, measured in terms of real prices, during the first quarter, and by 9 percent during the second quarter.

However, the orderbooks of the industries indicate that the golden days of sales in the export markets are about to run out, at the same time as the setback in the domestic market continues. The volume of orders on hand from the export markets was thus, at the end of July, only 1 percent larger than the previous year, and the volume of orders on hand from the domestic market was 9 percent below that of the previous year, measured in terms of real prices.

During the remainder of the year and during the first half of 1981, the turnover of the industries will probably drop by up to 4 percent, measured in terms of real prices, compared with the same period during the previous year. The decline in sales will be largest in the domestic market.

The growing marketing problems of the industries are clearly reflected in the employment situation. There had been a steady improvement in the employment situation of the industries since 1978, but, in May, the development was reversed. Measured in terms of hours of work performed, the rate of employment dropped by 2.3 percent compared with May of 1979. The setback was largest within the stone-working industry, the pottery industry and the glass industry, viz. by 7 percent, and within the textile, clothing and leather goods industries by 6 percent. Only the iron and metal industries were able to maintain their total rates of employment.

The construction sector has been particularly hard hit by the recession. During the first half of the year, only 9,912 houses were started, as against 15,718 the previous year. The entire drop was largely concentrated on single-family houses with a drop from 12,939 construction starts during the first half of 1979 to 7,578 this year. While the new construction sector is experiencing its worst crisis in post-World War II years, skilled laborers have experienced a modest increase in activity within the repair service sector, which employed 47,800 men in May as against 44,800 the previous year. However, the volume of repair work has been far from sufficient for this sector to absorb the approximately 9,000 men who, during the same period, lost their jobs within the new construction sector.

Building activities will hardly increase appreciably within the foreseeable future. Disposable real incomes will drop further by a couple of percentage points in 1981, and, at best, there is the prospect of a stagnation in 1982 and the years after that. Finally, the big cash deficits of the state and the growing balance of payments deficit leave no hope of a perceptible drop in interest rates within the foreseeable future.

The retail sector as well as the construction sector will have to be prepared for a few extremely lean years. The retail turnover has dropped steadily since the end of the last year, and the trend will hardly be replaced by a stagnation until mid-1981. By that time, the volume of retail sales, measured in real prices, will probably be approximately 6 percent below the present level. The biggest drop in sales will take place within the clothing and durable goods sectors. Food sales will probably hold their own. True to tradition, we shall remain compulsive eaters throughout the bad times.

BRIEFS

GREENLAND BUDGET DEFICIT--The budget of the Greenland home rule government for 1981 shows a deficit of 5 million kroner. The total expenditure amounts to 805 million kroner and the revenue to 800 million kroner. The budget was presented at the fall session of the Greenland Landsting and was accompanied by a proposal from the home rule government for increases in taxes and indirect taxes. Income taxes have been budgeted at 93 million kroner. Indirect taxes at well over 151 million kroner. [Text] [Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 2 Oct 80 p 7] 7262

GREENLAND OIL EXPLORATION--The Greenland home rule government has approved a continuation of the oil exploration on land in East Greenland. The question of the oil exploration in East Greenland was taken up during the fall session of the Greenland Landsting. The debate showed that both the home rule government party Siumut ["Forward"] and the opposition party Atassut ["Mutual Cooperation"] can accept a continuation of the exploration that was started in Jameson Land, the peninsula to the north of the Scoresby Sound. The final decision will be made by the Danish-Greenland Joint Council for Mineral Resources in Greenland. Both Siumut and Atassut stress that thorough preliminary examinations of the environment in the area will have to be carried through. [Text] [Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 20 Oct 80 p 7] 7262

DENMARK INCREASES GREENLAND AID--The Greenland Landsting protests unanimously that, for economic reasons, the Danish government will not fulfill the conditions for payment of bloc grants from the Danish state to the home rule administration. At the fall session of the Landsting at Godthåb, it was stated that the bloc grant for the next year will be increased by nearly 57 million kroner to 503 million kroner. The increase is due partly to the automatic inflation adjustment, partly to the transfer of museums and folk high schools to the home rule government. However, in its negotiations with the Danish government, the Greenland home rule government has had to accept the fact that, at the transfer of the new home rule arrangement, already planned expenditure increases will not be included. Both of the Landsting parties stressed that, in the future, the calculations will have to be done in accordance with the lines laid down in the home rule report. [Text] [Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 1 Oct 80 p 3] 7262

NEW RADAR SYSTEM FUNDING--Defense Minister Poul Soegaard has submitted a confidential application to the Finance Committee for 785 million kroner for the replacement of radar systems and the establishment of a new aircraft warning system for the defense forces. The minister's confidential application is mentioned in BERLINGSKE TIDENDE, where it is reported that the money will in part be used to replace the radar system on the Faeroe Islands and also to buy a completely new warning system against low-flying aircraft over the Baltic. Defense Ministry departmental head J. Haahr has confirmed that an application has been sent to the Finance Committee but he did not wish to give a more detailed description of the application. He confirmed at the same time that part of the 785 million kroner will be refunded by NATO. The aircraft warning system is part of the expansion of NATO's advance warning installations. [Excerpt] [LD270845 Copenhagen AKTUEL in Danish 21 Oct 80 p 12]

CSO: 3106

PRIME MINISTER KOIVISTO DISCUSSES RELATIONS WITH USSR

Helsinki UUSI SUOMI in Finnish 21 Sep 80 p 15-17

[Interview with Prime Minister Mauno Koivisto by Tuomas Keskinen, date and place not given]

[Text] Success has brought anxiety for Prime Minister Mauno Koivisto (56). Party comrades are fashioning him into a presidential candidate, "an earlier than an early one." The proposed candidate himself is not interested in the matter.

Whenever Mauno Koivisto has involved himself with foreign policy, it has been likely to create negative ripples both in Finland and elsewhere. The prime minister in this interview speaks openly of his relations with the east. He also comments on the tinderbox question of the U.S. and Norwegian decision on weapons storage.

Has something changed?

Prime Minister Mauno Koivisto's handshake feels firmer than before, in the Bank of Finland, on Bore Star or in the Haga Castle in Stockholm.

Mauno Koivisto is said to be a philosopher who expresses his ideas so ambiguously that it is difficult to write clear reports on them. This encounter did not confirm that opinion. The answers were lucid and well formulated.

The questions had not been agreed beforehand. But the prime minister had a ready answer on one of them, the one having to do with the time for selecting the Social Democratic Party's presidential candidate.

No other Finn's profile is now as prominent as that of Mauno Koivisto's. Whatever he does or does not do or say makes his misunderstood profile even more prominent.

Mauno Koivisto's poll-measured popularity has become a fact and it is used as a means of making politics. It hoisted him to the prime ministership after the parliamentary elections. Mauno Koivisto is able to pursue his unique politics of balance under the auspices of this popularity. If need dictates, he can override his party's firm decisions; in this sense the party is captive to its bohemian. At the moment, it has thrust itself with all its might to ride with Koivisto's popularity and is using him to pull the party's election wagon.

The prime minister's unique position means that the government's center groups have a wider field in the direction of the Social Democrats. No wonder that this causes the party chief Kalevi Sorsa to shoot out barbs at steady intervals.

But at the same time, the Great Myth is only swelling. The rashest Center folk have concluded that Koivisto should be jerked down from the prime minister's seat in order to turn his popularity finally on a downhill path. But his popularity was the very reason why he was made prime minister, the counterarguments go. The cycle is closed.

Popular Front no Cause for Regrets

Mauno Koivisto's ascent for the nation's political summit positions was connected with the resurgence of the popular front after the 1966 elections. Mauno Koivisto accepts the word "popular front" only in inverted commas, because it is burdened with historical encumbrances. Koivisto points out that Rafael Paasio did not approve of the word at all.

[Question] But Koivisto assisted Paasio to build the popular front, and he joined it as the finance minister over 14 years ago. The basis is the same now, and Koivisto is prime minister for the second time. What is his evaluation of this period?

[Answer] I don't think there is really any reason to regret anything. It is hard to imagine what would have been an alternate line of procedure. Some young people whine over not having clear alternatives. But the world is such that the majority generally reigns, even if it is a one-vote majority. If it is overturned, people will act accordingly."

"It is difficult in Finland to rule over legislative activity with a small majority. In other words, there are system-related factors that lead to consensus politics. It is a slow road and does not satisfy the imagination but it has the great merit of constancy," ponders the prime minister.

Koivisto believes that there will be no wealth of alternatives after the upcoming parliamentary elections either. If no great upsets occur, the same old base will possibly remain.

[Question] Mauno Koivisto, you served as prime minister for the first time in 1968-1970. At that time you were an active prime minister, eager to express opinions. This time, your attitude is different, a passive one. What is the reason for the difference?

[Answer] "This latter interpretation is somewhat misguided," the prime minister begins to correct.

"Ten years ago the left had the majority, but we were trying to use it temperately. Now there has been unnecessary talk over the fact that the government has a non-social majority. Emphasizing that fact has been questionable in my opinion."

"But my position in this government is of course puzzling. It is not quite acceptable that the prime minister comes out and disagrees with the government. That can easily leave a bad taste in the mouth," Koivisto muses over his position.

[Question] So the difference between Koivisto then and now is caused by the fact that the left earlier had the majority both in the diet and the cabinet but does not now?

[Answer] "We need to apply ourselves to finding a line that can be accepted by all of us--me, the left and the entire cabinet."

[Question] What impression do you as the prime minister have of the cabinet's capacity to operate now, in the aftermath of the tight budget?

[Answer] "It is continuously getting better. We had a worse atmosphere last year, and last spring for certain reasons an even worse one than that. It has now changed for the better. We have adjusted to being in this business."

[Question] Is the Center Party such a cunning schemer that it makes everything close to impossible?

[Answer] "That expression misses the mark. There was a rough succession fight in the Center Party, and it reflected on everything. The new party chief is of course still faced with many expectations. Then there is a tender balance to be struck between the MTK [Central Union of Agricultural Producers] and the Center Party."

"A great deal of time and patience has been expended, but we have had a moderate success," Koivisto evaluates the Social Democrats' comrade-in-cooperation.

[Question] It appeared that the worst difficulties the prime minister had in the spring were those with his own people, the Social Democrats.

[Answer] "I cannot say they were the worst, but yes, there were quite a lot of them. It was all understandable irritation. The summer quietened things down, there is no way of knowing how the fall will go."

Where Are the Choppers lurking?

[Question] "The Koivisto choppers" is the newest coinage in presidential politics phraseology. Has the prime minister perchance seen any Koivisto choppers?

[Answer] "I have not."

"But I can imagine that if I was chopped off from the proposed candidacy, a few might rejoice."

[Question] The endless talk of popularity on one hand and of chopping off on the other, has it influenced your style of filling the office?

[Answer] "Yes."

"There have been many reasons for me not to appear as public spokesman for the government in indeterminate circumstances when it has not been known yet what stand the cabinet will take."

"This arrangement, with me as the prime minister, is very unique. It is for many reasons understandable that I have not had any need to make a great hullabaloo about anything," Koivisto explains his passive style of directorship.

He means that it is universally commonplace to have the chief of the largest political party as prime minister.

[Question] Mauno Koivisto, you are a Social Democrat, a member of the Socialist Party. What sort of a Social Democrat are you?

[Answer] "Nothing much to brag about," he answers again, as many times before.

It is a comment that is easy for everybody to accept, a neutral one. Koivisto continues:

"No one can tend to affairs of this sort without hurting his soul."

[Question] Has the ideological component of Koivisto the whole man been completely cast aside?

[Answer] "At least it has shrunk a lot. In the 1970's, I was still participating very vigorously in the ideological debate. I have gradually shied away from it, leaving it for others to worry about."

[Question] Is this a calculated move? For the sake of popularity, is it better not to speak of ideologies, at least those of socialism?

[Answer] It is not a calculated move. Ideological debate is dead for other reasons, not because I would have finished it off.

Common Man's Socialism

[Question] Socialism is a part of your party program. How do you react to that word?

[Answer] "The left-wing parties generally hold as a goal a socialist society, with all sorts of beautiful and worthwhile ideas associated with it. The Social Democrats generally add to this that there are no societal systems in existence now that would correspond to their ideas of socialism."

Mauno Koivisto's interest in ideologies is gradually returning. He finds it peculiar that Karl Marx can envision a societal state of affairs where evolutionary progress has halted and all the forces leading to it have ceased being effectual.

"The idea of creating an ideal society is nothing more than a somewhat secularized rehash of the religious notion of the coming millennium."

"There is no point in imagining a ready-made society of the future. But there are directions, conceptions of principles that must be realized. It has to be admitted that there will be rebounds, and one has to be able to withstand those. This is socialism of the rational man of the street." Mauno Koivisto is becoming enthusiastic.

He continues to describe his own brand of socialism, striving to have better relations between people, organizing society better, and finally:

"Every imaginable good."

[Question] So even Mauno Koivisto's socialism is leaning towards socialism?

[Answer] "Yes, in this respect. Not starting from a ready-made model, but towards . . ."

[Question] Towards socialism that never will be complete?

[Answer] "This might be a contradictory statement but we want to build the society of the future with all sorts of expectations and hopes attached to it that we are familiar with in broad outline."

[Question] So socialism as an ideology goes through your political thinking as a red thread?

The prime minister found this question on socialism to be finally too much. He would have to start the explanation from the beginning again, he answered somewhat peevishly.

So direction is important in Koivisto's socialism, but whether the direction is towards socialism--concentration of the power to the state--remains to be seen. Also whether Mauno Koivisto's brand of socialism is anything to boast about.

Markets to Continue Existence

Soon the conversation moves over to markets, to the area of supply and demand.

Koivisto has thought this over.

[Answer] "Even the thought of doing away with market forces is unendurable. It is not based on an ideological conception," he says.

[Question] So the markets will fend for themselves even in Koivisto socialism. But if there is an attempt to substitute for them through decisions by some organ or individual, the system will not work?

[Answer] "It will work well enough until it is realized that a new decision is necessary, and then it will break down in new decisions and inconsistencies."

"It functions best on a bread and butter level of meeting people's needs. If the standard of living goes up and people's needs become more diverse it will function worse and worse."

The socialist states are beginning to consider markets of supply and demand more than ever before. It has been said that this means a return to capitalism. This isn't necessarily so in Koivisto's opinion because, he points out, the market forces are considerably older than capitalism.

[Question] Do you still study these ideas and ideologies, Mr Prime Minister?

[Answer] "Not as much as before, the interest is going down. But discussions like this can rekindle the old flame. I imagine the old skills are there and I could still come in to my own in a fair-sized panel."

Maybe it would finally be the time to have a panel of ideas and ideologists. Mauno Koivisto here declares willingness . . . Who would dare to challenge him?

Early Presidential Election

If the presidential election were to be held now, you would be the Social Democrat Party's candidate. Kalevi Sorsa has expressed sentiments of this sort. The word "now" is of course uttered with reservations, but let's hold onto it for now. What is your own attitude towards this?

[Answer] "We have no presidential election now. It will be in 1984 according to the law."

Then the prime minister's eyes go on reading the paper, or at least that is what it looked like seen from the other side of the desk. This happened already before the well-known outcry by Erkki Raatikainen.

"I think it is better that this matter not be brought forth at all in the party meeting next year. It would only mean starting an even earlier presidential campaign."

"I gave my opinion here quite clearly. I wouldn't like to speak of this any more," the proposed presidential candidate pleads.

[Question] So the decision-making power should be transferred to the party council?

[Answer] "It is the only alternative. The next party conference is only after 3 years, that is, in 1984."

"Better not to take this matter up next summer."

[Question] Does it bother you now?

[Answer] "Not at this moment. But every so often I have felt it to be a troublesome topic of discussion."

[Question] However, you have been striving for the situation you are now blessed with?

[Answer] "Hmm . . . If I said I have not, it would appear hypocritical. However, it is true."

The prime minister chortles on this, and the questioner finds it amusing too.

This sort of striving can best be illustrated by a glimpse of the young, not yet 10-year old Mauno Koivisto. He and Pekka Mannisto were shooting little sharp arrows from a trunk bow. Pekka pointed at the rod between the high-jump standards and told Mauno to shoot at it. Mauno did.

Now Mauno is sitting on the prime minister's chair and is demonstrating with his big hand how peculiar the slender arrow's flight route was.

"I still remember how it was left dangling on the rod."

Pekka thought it was an accident but Arska, who was older, said: "Well, yes, but Maukka [Mauno] did aim at it."

In a similar way Maukka, who has now become Mauno also aimed at the position of the chief director of the Bank of Finland, although he just had been chosen the chief director of Elanto [workers' cooperative retail chain]. He hit that time. And now Mauno is aiming again.

[Question] You are aiming at a new rod, and rightly so. That is what politics are made of, isn't it?

[Answer] "Yes, but if we now could speak about something else . . ."

[Question] What kind of a president will Finland need after Kekkonen? It has been said that he has to be this way or that way . . . Are there any problems about this?

[Answer] "Are there a lot more questions like this," sighs the prime minister and starts buttoning up.

"There is no problem. I can't imagine that Urho Kekkonen's successor--whoever he will be--would be able to ape him. Nothing will come out of that."

[Question] Must one choose a low profile?

[Answer] "This is a different question," Koivisto says and explains his present profile: "I have a feeling that it is not necessary now to take action for the sake of appearances only. The government is not doing anything only to show itself diligent. It underrates its own decisions in public rather than takes on airs. This style suits me, and no other."

[Question] Maybe air has been left earlier on top of the actions, between speeches and real deeds?

[Answer] "Yes, yes."

Not Much To Boast About

Foreign policy and Mauno Koivisto are such a hot combination that many advised me to leave this as the last topic of the interview so that everything wouldn't go wrong. It was an unnecessary warning. Koivisto is willing to speak of his relations both with the east and west.

"Tamminiemi" is the latest slogan in the Finnish politics, both as the name of the building Presidential official residence and the book [Kekkonen's book published on his 80th birthday]. Because of budget pressures, Koivisto had had no chance to read it yet, only to leaf it through.

I read aloud the following excerpt: "I would regard the fact that we have been able to create good personal relations as an important condition for politics of trustful cooperation. In my opinion, this should be the goal also in the future."

[Answer] "Oh, meaning eastwards," checks Koivisto with his Turku drawl.

[Question] Yes. How are Mauno Koivisto's relations to the east? This is the only question but quite an important one about you which still raises doubts and argumentation even among the people.

[Answer] "There is not much to boast about in that respect," Koivisto says.

"I did go to the Olympics," he points out.

But it was for the Games only and pleased the organizers in that respect.

[Question] Mauno Koivisto's eastern relations are a question mark to many Finns, are they?

[Answer] "And they may well be. There's nothing I find worrisome about them myself," he answers, and the matter is concluded.

Attacked for Foreign Policy

The Nordic cooperation is the area of foreign politics with which also the Finnish prime minister involves himself exceptionally closely. Ten years ago Prime Minister Koivisto was actively involved with the Nordek venture, and there later was an attempt—quite an undue one, according to the available information—to hold Koivisto responsible for it.

Prime Minister Koivisto was asked last spring in Sweden whether he is concerned over the U.S. and Norwegian plans of placing weapon storage in Northern Norway. When he answered in the negative, he "no" launched a sharp attack against him in a SUOMENMAA [Center Party organ] editorial.

Koivisto explained the motives for his answer in a written interview in HELSINGIN SANOMAT in the following way:

"My starting point was that the USSR reaction would at any rate be calmer than the western one would have been in case I had answered in the positive. That reaction would have been hysterical."

Koivisto says this of the resultant Finnish hysteria:

"What happened here was quite an assault."

The prime minister also says that there was a fair bit of fuss made over this also during the president's birthday celebration.

The Norwegian Government and Labor Party have now decided that the storages are going to be placed in Central Norway and that Norway's own forces are going to be fortified in the North. Strong domestic struggle has ensued in Norway over this. The rightists on one hand and the pacifist line of the Labor Party on the other are both attacking the government.

[Question] Has Norway considered the entire Nordic situation in making this decision?

[Answer] "I have discussed these matters a lot with the Norwegians, especially with Prime Minister Odvar Nordl. It is difficult for me to give more comments or to explain the decision any further."

The Sensitive North

[Question] How tender is the situation with the balance in the North at the moment?

[Answer] "I wouldn't say it's tender, but it is a delicate balance."

"Not delicate indicating that we are alarmed. The exchange of opinions has been comparatively calm. The way the Swedes and us Finns have put questions have been quite similar. It is obvious that Norway is taking more and more notice of other Nordic countries' views," says the prime minister.

"There is a very strong Atlantic leaning in Norway. It is not easy to put it in words, but the attitude towards Finland is somewhat superior. Maybe we have had some prejudiced attitudes towards the Norwegians. But mutual trust has grown in recent times," Koivisto analyzes.

The prime minister does not say it, but he maybe regards that part of the credit for this goes to his own discussions.

[Question] Still one more question about Norway: Is it afraid that in a crisis situation it would be left alone after all?

[Answer] "There is a lot of that in it. The Norwegians have still a lot of reverberations of the 1940 shock in them.

Mauno Koivisto can say this, because he was not shocked in 1940.

[Question] You were recently on a fishing expedition with Prime Minister Thorbjorn Falldin. Did you catch anything?

[Answer] "I did not. Falldin did, he had an angle with a worm hook. I tried with a trolling hook."

[Question] What were you talking about?

[Answer] "Matters having to do with Nordic security were very prominent."

"Sweden is finding out that it is no longer a rich country. It has maintained quite sizable defence machinery, it has had big armament industry. They have been far advanced in technical development."

"They have now realized that if Sweden is to keep up its status it must be ready for the kind of economic sacrifices for which the Swedes have no real motivation any more."

"Because of this, they have realized that they should learn to know also other ways for increasing their security."

Nothing Much to Complain about

[Question] You were working in Turku as a career counsellor. What is your opinion of your own choice? Have you been successful?

[Answer] "There is nothing much to complain about."

"Of course one gets irritated sometimes, and in connection with making the budget occasionally very irritated. But I asked myself then if I was content to be only an onlooker. I was not."

"One would rather tolerate the strain caused by participation than stand aside powerless."

9571

CSO: 3107

POLL SHOWS CONSERVATIVES CONTINUE GROWTH, SKDL DECLINE

Helsinki HELSINGIN SANOMAT in Finnish 28 Sep 80 p 9

[Text] The Conservative Party will be gaining the most and the SKDL [Finnish People's Democratic League] will suffer the bitterest decline in the October municipal elections. This prognosis comes out of the opinion poll conducted by the M-Information Center for the Conservative Party. The poll was announced on Saturday (27 September) at the Conservative Party Board quarters.

According to the poll, the Conservatives will go up 1 percentage point from the last municipal elections. The SDP [Social Democratic Party] is keeping pace with an added support of 0.9 percent.

This means that the Conservative Party (22.7 percent) is not reaching its goal of becoming the largest party. The SDP (24.8 percent) is maintaining its advantage by some 2 percentage points.

The Center Party, which voted itself a new leadership in June, will hitch up its support to 17.7 percent, a 0.4 percent increase from the parliamentary elections. However, the party will not be able to attain the 1976 municipal elections support figure.

The SKDL is the only big party on the down-grade. There will be a further drop of 0.8 percent. The SKDL will also be the only government party to incur losses.

The poll envisages loss of support for all other small parties except the RKP [Swedish People's Party]. The Liberal Party, now going through dire straits, will not get above the 4 percent threshold it is reaching for.

Opinion Poll Measures Party Loyalty: The Biggest Parties Have the Most Loyal Followers

The opinion poll conducted by the M-Information Center for the Conservative Party indicates that the big parties have the most loyal voters. The left commands the most steadfast voters of all: the SDP and the SKDL voters show 90 percent constancy in their voting behavior. The Conservative and Center Parties' patrons are almost as constant with 88 percent of the voters lining up behind their parties also in the upcoming election.

Party loyalty has declined a little since the poll made by the four big parties last fall. At that time, the Conservative and Social Democrat Parties had the lead, with both maintaining a 93 percent voter loyalty.

Voter loyalty was weakest towards the small parties, and according to the poll, these will also continue to decline in the October municipal election. Loyalty figures indicate the percentage of voters who intend to vote for the same party they voted for in the previous election. Party loyalty is divided in the following way:

SDP 90, SKDL 90, Conservative Party 88, Center Party 88, RKP 94, SKL [Finnish Christian Union] 73, SMP [Finnish Rural Party] and LKP [Liberal Party] 74 percent.

RKP loyalty has been traditionally strong. However, as the number of interviewed people was small, the loyalty figure for the Swedish [party] might have been affected by the random sampling. It is generally difficult to measure the patronage of the small parties in this type of poll.

Liberals Switching into the SDP and Conservative Party

According to the study, the continuously shrinking Liberal Party is losing voters to the Conservatives (14 percent) and the SDP (12 percent).

According to information from the Liberals, the drain of card-carrying Liberals is not to the SDP but to the Conservative Party.

Approximately 50 municipal council and board Liberals have gone over to the Conservative Party by now. The Liberals are putting the blame on the vigorous buying campaign by the Conservatives.

There is leakage from the SMP into the Center and Conservative Parties, from the Christians into the Conservative Party and Center and from the RKP into the SDP.

With the exception of the RKP, desertions from the small parties are above 10 percent.

Desertions from the big parties, where the party loyalty is strongest, are below 10 percent.

The SDP is losing some voters to the SKDL and Conservatives. The SKDL leak into the Social Democratic Party is 6 percent.

There is about an equal amount of movement in both directions between the Center Party and the Conservative Party: From the Center to the Conservatives 7 percent, and from the Conservatives to the Center 5 percent.

M-Information Center conducted the poll interviewing 1,219 voting-age citizens in 22 towns and 32 rural communities. One hundred fifty of those interviewed were young, between 18 and 24 years of age. Interviews were done between 15 August and 15 September.

Approximately 150 of the young supported the Conservative Party. Second-most in popularity among the youth was the Center Party, with 21 percent young supporters, followed by the SKDL (15 percent), SDP (14 percent), SKL (3 percent), SMP (3 percent), RKP (2 percent) and LKP (2 percent).

SKDL Skidding

The poll indicates that the SKDL is the only big party on a decline. The downhill direction has continued since the 1970 peak year. In the 1975 parliamentary elections the SKDL had 18.9 percent of the vote.

In the municipal elections of 1976 the SKDL support was 18.5 percent, in the parliamentary elections in 1979 it fell to 17.9 percent and in this poll to 17.1 percent.

The SKDL is also the only cabinet party on a decline.

As compared to the last parliamentary elections (23.9 percent), the Social Democrats are going to gain support, to 24.8 percent, which is precisely the figure of the 1976 municipal elections.

The Center Party is not going to regain the support it had in the 1976 municipal elections (18.4 percent), but it will strengthen its support to 17.7 percent, a 0.4 percent increase from the last parliamentary election (17.7 percent).

The smallest government party, RKP, is going to strengthen its support from both previous elections, to 4.8 percent.

In the opposition, only the Conservative Party is flourishing. The new reading in the chart of continuous rise is now 22.7 percent. The increase from the previous municipal elections is nearly 2 percent and from the parliamentary elections 1 percent.

The small opposition parties are losing support. The LKP, which was not included in the Mauno Koivisto (Social Democrat) cabinet, does not seem to have improved its image even in opposition, and its support will go down to 3.4 percent according to the survey.

With the exception of the last presidential election, the LKP has been this low as long ago as in the 1953 municipal elections when it was called the Finnish People's Party.

Chairman Ilkka Suominen: "The Conservative Party still Aiming at Leadership Position"

"We are still nurturing the challenge of making the Conservative Party the biggest," declared the party chief Ilkka Suominen at the party council quarters on Saturday (27 September) when he announced the opinion poll conducted by M-Information Center for the Conservative Party. The poll shows the Conservatives a couple of percentage points behind the Social Democrats.

Party Chief Suominen spurred on his team to stage an even mightier fight for the position of the leading party.

In Suominen's opinion, this means that the two main alternatives, the Conservative Party and the Social Democrat Party have to be distinguished more and more sharply from the motley political background.

"At the same time, the voters will have to be reminded that a choice between these two alternatives is the only way of taking a stand that has a strong effect on defining the direction of the development of Finnish society," said Suominen.

Suominen was especially pleased with the part of the poll that dealt with the young voters. Whereas the Conservative Party support was high (38 percent) among these future decisionmakers, the support for the left was under 30 percent. He felt this to be significant when considering political decisionmaking in the future decades.

In his speech Suominen also criticized the economic policy of the government. He found it incomprehensible that 7 billion marks worth of loans had been added during the 2 boom years.

When announcing the budget, the ministers emphasized that borrowing should have been smaller. The opposition is led to ask who made the budget if not these very ministers, Suominen continued.

Municipalities Need Change of Generations

The party secretary, Jussi Isotalo, whose speech was permeated by election overtones, suggested that the board seats in municipalities be redistributed. According to Isotalo, the board seats have turned into fortresses where people linger for decades. He made a plea to the party's veteran politicians to assist in instigating the generation change.

The Conservative Party's party board sanctioned the party budget for the year 1981. The grand total of expenses is 16.7 million marks; the increase from the last year is in the neighborhood of 9 percent.

The biggest increase was in salaries and social security expenses, 1.2 million marks. This increase to 4.4 million marks is caused by the organizational reform of the central office and overhaul of wages.

The party subsidy of 10.1 million marks is the Conservative Party's largest income source. One point eight million marks are collected as membership fees.

The party board proposes in its statement that young couples be expected to have 5-10 percent own capital for buying their first home. The goal for housing expenses has to be that they do not go over 20 percent of the family income. Inflation protection has to be arranged for saving accounts for purchase of homes and loan periods have to be made longer, the Conservative Party argues.

Party Support August-September 1980 M-tietokeskus OY

	<u>Municipal Elections 1976 (percent)</u>	<u>Parliamentary Elections 1979 (percent)</u>	<u>M-Tietokeskus Poll August-September 1980 (percent)</u>
SKDL [Finnish People's Democratic League]	18.5	17.9	17.1
SDP [Social Democrat Party]	24.8	23.9	24.8
STP [Finnish Labor Party]	0.1	0.1	(0.2)
	43.4	41.9	42.1
KESK [Center Party]	18.4	17.3	17.7
LKP [Liberal People's Party]	4.8	3.7	3.4
RKP [Swedish People's Party]	4.7	4.5	4.8

(table continued)

	<u>Municipal Elections 1976 (percent)</u>	<u>Parliamentary Elections 1979 (percent)</u>	<u>M-Tietokeskus Poll August-September 1980 (percent)</u>
KOK [Conservative Party]	20.9	21.7	22.7
SKYP [Finnish People's Unification Party]	0.5	0.3	0.3
SMP [Finnish Rural Party]	2.1	4.6	3.4
SKL [Finnish Christian Union]	3.2	4.8	4.2
PKP [Constitutional People's Party]	0.9	1.2	1.2
SYP [Finnish Private Entrepreneurs' Party]	0.1	0.0	(0.2)
	56.6	58.1	57.9

9571

CSO: 3107

FORECAST SEES POPULATION DROP OF 1 MILLION BY 2050

Helsinki HELSINGIN SANOMAT in Finnish 27 Sept 80 p 3, 12

[Text] The National Pensions Institution population forecast for the years 1980-2050 indicates that population is going to decrease to about 3.62 millions by the year 2050.

The age composition of the population would change significantly during the forecast period. The share of over 65 year olds would increase from the present about 12 percent to twice that by the year 2030.

During the 15 next years, the average expected age for women would increase from 77.9 years to 79.7 years. The increase for men would be over 3 years, that is, from 68.9 to 72 years.

According to the forecast, by around 2020 the number of old people would reach 1 million. The number of pensioners would be highest in 2025, at which time there would be around 1.28 million of them.

If Forecasts Prove True, Nearly One Person in Three on Pension after 2030

Nearly ever third Finn would be receiving a national pension after 2030. According to the forecast by the National Pension Institute, the share of pensioners of the total population would increase from the present 17 percent so that it would be nearly 30 percent after the year 2030.

The prognosis regarding pensioners has been based on the National Pension Institute's population forecast. The forecast has been extended to include the year 2050 because this will make it possible to observe the effect of the after-the-war baby boom.

It has been assumed that the birth rate would remain approximately on the 1978 level. That would mean that the number of births would go down from the present 63,000 a year rather evenly to about half of that by 2050. The decrease would be caused by decrease of women in fertile years.

The previous forecast was given by the Bureau of Statistics 3 years ago. It was assumed there that the birth rate would stay somewhat higher than what the newest figures now used by Kela indicate.

According to the calculation, the number of deaths would start being greater than the number of births from the beginning of the next millennium. The yearly difference would be over 30,000 after the year 2030.

Median Age to Increase with 9 Years

According to the forecast, the Finnish population would continue to grow until the middle of the next decade and go down rather steeply from there on.

That would mean that the population in 1985 would be 4.85 million in 1985 and at its highest in 1995, with 4.92 million Finns. After that, decrease would set in so that by the end of the forecast period there would be only 3.62 million of us left.

The median age of citizens would go up by about 9 years. The median age of women is at the moment 37.5 years and in 2050 it would, according to the forecast, be 46.8 years. The corresponding figures for men would be 33.7 and 42.7 years.

At the moment, over 12 percent of the population are over 65 years of age. Their number would double during the forecast period. The number of children under 16 years of age and the number of 16 to 64 year old adults would both go down by 6 percentage points.

There are 579,000 people now on the old-age pension. This figure would be at its highest in 2030 with 1.05 million such pensioners. After this peak, the number of old-age pensioners would begin to decrease.

The post-war generation will be receiving old-age-pension in the 2010's.

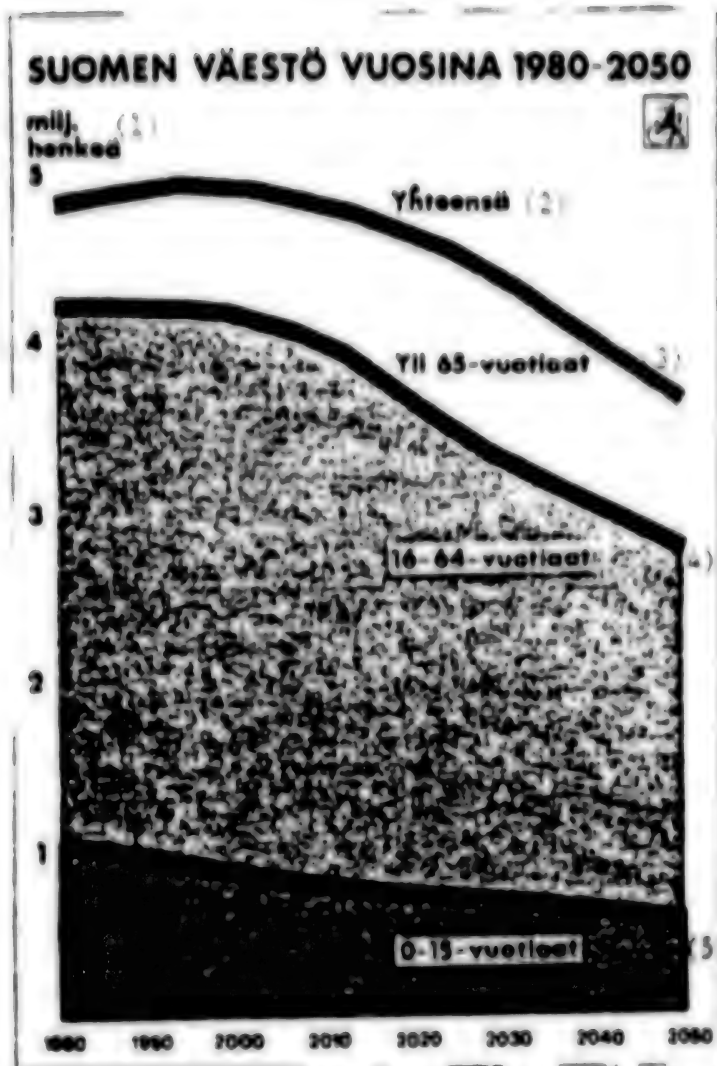
Disability Pensions at a Peak in 2009

The number of disabled pensioners doubled in the years 1966-1975. From then on, the number has gone down by over 10,000.

According to the forecast, the number of those on disability pension would continue to go down until the middle of the next decade. It would then start going up until 2009, the peak year. The increase would be caused by the fact that the post-war generation would then be in the age group whose proportional disability figure is largest.

The National Pension Institute has made the population forecast as a basis for insurance calculations. The Bureau of Statistics experts have been consulted in making the forecast.

Finland's Population in 1980-2050



Key:

- 1) millions people
- 2) Total
- 3) Over 65 years
- 4) 16-64 years
- 5) 0-15 years

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BRIEFS

EDUCATION PROTOCOL WITH USSR--A protocol on Finnish-Soviet cooperation in the field of higher education was signed in Helsinki today by Education Minister Paer Stenbaeck for Finland and for the Soviet Union by Minister of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education V. P. Yelyutin. The protocol, now signed and extending until 1984, is the third 5-year protocol on higher educational exchange between Finland and the Soviet Union. The protocol is almost unchanged as regards exchanges of visits in that the Soviet Union will receive from Finland annually 190 higher education students, researchers and lecturers. Correspondingly, Finland will receive 80 persons from the Soviet Union. [Text] [LD020115 Helsinki Domestic Service in Finnish 1400 GMT 1 Oct 80 LD]

CSO: 3107

UDF MEMBER DISCUSSES PRE-, POST-ELECTION STRATEGY

Paris LE MONDE in French 8 Oct 80 pp 1, 10

[Interview with Roger Chinaud, president of the UDF of the National Assembly, by Noel-Jean Bergeroux, date not given]

[Excerpts] Roger Chinaud, president of the UDF [French Democratic Union] group of the National Assembly, former secretary general of the Federation of Independent Republicans, is a "longtime companion" of Giscard d'Estaing. In the following interview, he discusses what could be the consequences of a presidential campaign during which the Gaullists and Giscardians have not maintained a certain degree of moderation toward one another. He does not believe that in the event of reelection Giscard d'Estaing would "automatically" choose to dissolve the Assembly.

This interview was held before the Rue Copernic attacks which were described on Monday by Chinaud as "an event of great seriousness which places the country and the republic in danger."

[Question] Do you have the firm conviction about what decision will be made by Giscard d'Estaing in 1981?

[Answer] No, I have no conviction but rather a hope, a hope that the president of the republic will stand for reelection. But I do not know this. I am even less aware of whether he will do so than you might imagine. Just because the political class has been nearly killing itself to get the presidential campaign started for a year is no reason for us to reproach the serious candidates for not yet having made their decisions public.

[Question] You have said: "I am even less aware than you might imagine" of the decision Giscard d'Estaing will make. What causes you to be a bit doubtful? A sentence, an attitude?

[Answer] You seem to think that the team which has been around Giscard d'Estaing for a long time is absolutely sure of his decision. I say to you: no! The president of the republic is giving priority to running the government over the agitation of candidacy. He is asking those who work with him to do the same. It is

better that way. It is for that reason we might have doubts, for a certain period yet.

[Question] As a matter of fact, I believe you are certain that he will be a candidate!

[Answer] Doubtless that is because my hope radiates!

[Question] The same question but this time with regard to Jacques Chirac.

[Answer] To the best of my knowledge, he has not answered you himself. Is there anyone in our country who might make a bet on this subject? What could Jacques Chirac's objective be? What could be the objective of Francois Mitterrand, of Michel Rocard and of several others? Generally speaking, what could be the objectives be of those who offer themselves as candidates for an election which they do not believe they can win? This objective is to find themselves after the event in the position of not too weakened leaders of their respective parties. It is, therefore, an objective of a tactical kind and nothing else. But that does not interest me, for it is not worthy of the presidential election. You would have to ask Jacques Chirac if he habitually includes a thought of a strategic kind in his political reasoning.

[Question] Might the desire to maintain his authority over the Gaullist party, in your opinion, keep Jacques Chirac from asking his voters to vote for Valéry Giscard d'Estaing in the second round?

[Answer] The essential is at stake during the presidential election. Good politics does not consist in playing tricks the day after the first round of voting on someone who has not smiled at you but will consist in choosing the essential; and the essential, allowing us to assume that we are still in the majority, is knowing whether or not it is a candidate of this majority who is elected. I might add that in the case of the presidential election--unlike what might happen in other kinds of elections--there is no discussion or negotiation possible with a candidate for the presidency of the republic on the way to being elected. That is not the spirit of the institutions.

[Question] You are reproaching them, then, for not marching in step [au canon] toward what you call the essential, but you Giscardians yourselves have not always marched in step under other presidents of the republic!

[Answer] I consider it entirely normal for our Gaullist partners and friends to support their own positions in the parliamentary debate. All the more so because some of them who are now expressing themselves have perhaps felt frustrated for a certain number of years. If they are expressing themselves so much now it is because the system has been liberalized, and I am happy about that.

Between the two rounds of the election, it is a question of knowing who will become the chief of state: someone with whom we have common views on the future of the society or someone who will lead French society in the direction to which all of us are absolutely opposed. In the face of such a simple choice, any attitude which would consist in playing tricks, in appearing to do so without doing so etc., all of that would be judged badly by public opinion...and would have our country run a major risk.

[Question] And would have consequences after the second round in case of the definitive victory of your candidate...

[Answer] It is true that there may be retractions with regard to Giscard d'Estaing in the Gaullist electorate (as there may be, I might add, in the communist electorate with respect to the socialist candidate). Everything will depend upon the feeling for responsibility of those who will conduct the RPR [Rally For the Republic] presidential campaign. Will they run the risk of ruining everything, or worse, of repudiating everything. I do not like to think so.

[Question] Do you fear the influence on public opinion of scandals or affairs such as the Bokassa affair?

[Answer] No. I think that this kind of sickening affair, gratuitously stirred up, without proof, is of no interest to our fellow countrymen. They know very well how to distinguish between lurid novels and the search for the national interest. What is at stake in a presidential election are the nation's major plans and not the mud that certain persons take pleasure in stirring up.

[Question] One could believe that if Valéry Giscard d'Estaing were to win the election, he would dissolve the Assembly.

[Answer] I am surprised when people pose the post-election question in those terms. In the first place, the function of the president of the republic is to preserve the institutions. No president of the Fifth Republic has toyed with the institutions...

[Question] It is not a question of toying! The president of the republic has the right: the right to dissolve the Assembly. If he dissolves it, he is not toying; he is exercising a constitutional right!

[Answer] Of course, but there are a certain number of conditions which cause the right of dissolution to function, let us say, normally. I do not see why anyone would suspect the president of the republic, whoever he might be, of wishing, the day after his election or reelection, to separate himself on principle from the National Assembly.

[Question] In 1968, Charles de Gaulle dissolved the National Assembly without a motion of censure having been voted.

[Answer] The current president of the republic himself had to publicly state what his position was on the question of dissolution: when, in the month of January 1980 he received Claube [as published] Labbe and myself he spoke of the right of dissolution, and his remarks were made public. Summarily, he recalled that the National Assembly was elected for 5 years and that it should serve until the end of its term. He also emphasized that unless a crisis were to break out within the majority, there would be no reason for dissolution.

And I do not have the feeling that the chief of state limited the scope of that January 1980 statement to the date of the 1981 presidential election. In my opinion things are simple: if the campaign is conducted in a serious manner on

the major national subjects, the second round of elections will take place under normal conditions with, on the one hand, the man who will represent the opposition, and, on the other hand, the man who will support, among others, the elected officials of a majority which has always been united in its voting. Under such circumstances, I do not see why a priori the problem of a dissolution would be posed after the election. Therefore, I do not see why there would be an automatic dissolution, if the campaign is conducted under the conditions I have described. That depends upon the candidates and the leaders!

[Question] What might happen afterward?

[Answer] Let us analyze the situation. Let us do a little supposing. Let us suppose, then, that the current president is a candidate. And let us suppose that he is reelected. He will appoint a new prime minister. The new government...

[Question] You say: "new." Therefore, according to you, it will no longer be Raymond Barre?

[Answer] That is another problem... Then the government will present its policy. Either the majority of the present National Assembly will be capable of drawing all the conclusions from the presidential election which will have taken place--taking into consideration the strengthened legitimacy of the president of the republic--and in this event, the temptations of the psychodrama which we have observed in some of our partners during the last 2 years will disappear of their own accord.

Or we will witness a resurrection of these temptations, of these agitations, of these... "piggish actions" [Cochineries]² if I may express myself in that manner. Then it will be up to the deputies to state their position unequivocally; they are the institutional means of overturning the government. And in this event, they will have to do so! A new 7-year term could not begin in a climate of paralysis of action.

[Question] You say "paralysis." Do you really think that the chief of state now has a majority which makes him safe from paralysis?

[Answer] Parliament is not elected at the same time as the chief of state. The legislative election can act as a regulator (or as a supplementary clarification) for the president of the republic. Therefore, there is a parliamentary majority which the president must take into consideration when it is elected. In 1981, the parliamentary majority will be in place; and it will be their responsibility to take into consideration the president who is elected--or reelected.

[Question] Has the new era announced in 1974 begun or not?

[Answer] It has begun. The presidential campaign will show that the action wished by the president of the republic and taken by the government is entirely positive. That said, have we gone far enough fast enough?

I am not sure; but within the framework of the presidential campaign, we will have to state the reasons for certain delays... we will have to go further as regards the in-depth reform of French society, of the distribution of responsibilities, of the division of the results of success and justice.

We must also go further in the recognition of the right to be different; we must reaffirm the fact that responsibility and risk are virtues and that the permanent incitation of our people to behave like "a person on welfare" (assists) is fatal for our country.

Yes, there is a lot to do; and I hope that the parliament and the majority to be found in it again become aware of this in the spring with more depth and less cynicism.

FOOTNOTES

1. On 18 January 1980, after a talk with Messrs Labbe and Chinaud, Giscard d'Estaing made public a statement in which he said notably: "It is preferable for the proper functioning of institutions, whenever possible, to hold elections on their normal date. I note that the deputies of the majority not having approved any of the censure motions successively filed by the opposition and the French budget being regularly adopted today, the majority has not broken the commitment it made to the voters in March 1978."

2. It seems that Roger Chinaud is alluding to the Cochin [a place name] appeal made by Jacques Chirac on 6 December 1979.

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CSO: 3100

SATELLITE PROGRAM NOW IN ACTIVE PHASE

Paris LE MONDE in French 30 Sep 80 p 18

[Article by J.-F. Augereau]

[Text] Toulouse--Momentarily delayed because of budgetary constraints, the realization of the French Satellite Program for the Observation of the Earth (SPOE) is now in an active phase. In the days ahead the National Center for Special Studies (NCSS) will sign the preliminary contracts with industry.

The first contract, amounting to 520 million Fr, anticipates the construction, by the Matra Corporation, of the satellite platform to which the payload is to be affixed, and the second, of a value of 65 million Fr, the realization, by the European Corporation for Propulsion (ECP) of a receiving station and a center for pre-treatment of pictures of the earth taken by SPOE. By the end of the year, two more contracts should be concluded, one with Thomson-CSF (90 million Fr) for a part of the payload [] and the other with Matra (140 million Fr) for the 2 high-resolution cameras installed on the satellite.

The Constraints of the Rocket "Ariane"

From now on, the NCSS and industry will do their best to keep the deadlines and the cost limits which have suffered a certain drawback: the former, following budgetary constraints imposed by the development of the European rocket Ariane, and the latter, following changes in the project and [because of] the under-estimation of certain components. As the program now stands, the launching by SPOE of Ariane is now expected for May 1984, while the budget--part of which is financed by the armed forces, which will allow for their future optical reconnaissance satellites--amounts to, according to the economic conditions existing in January 1979, to 950 million Fr. To this are added the launching cost of the satellite (150 millions) and the contribution (77 millions) of Belgium and Sweden [which are] associated to the project.

Already, the technicians are proceeding, at the spacial center of Toulouse, to the first tests of materiel. A model of high-resolution cameras (they furnish shots on which details are visible from 10 to 20 meters) is subjected to important mechanical and thermic tests. On these parts depends the quality of the pictures taken from an altitude of 822 kilometers and the interpretation that may be deduced from them in areas as varied as pollution, agriculture, forestry, hydrology, geology or land use.

These informations should be available by July 1984. But at what cost and for what consumers? This is part of the object of the studies launched by those responsible for the program who do not hope, at least in the initial period, to make the first satellite SPOE profitable at any cost.

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CSO: 3100

BRIEFS

MATRA TO PRODUCE ANTIAIRCRAFT--Matra [expansion unknown] has just been awarded a contract by the Defense Ministry for production of a short-range (4 km) antiaircraft missile designed for air and land forces. Engaged as the prime contractor for the system, the company headed by Jean-Luc Lagardere is quietly rejoicing. First of all, the company emerged victorious from a very rough competition among five French companies, where SNIAS [expansion unknown] and Thomson--two very large suppliers of military systems--were feared, if not favored. Secondly, for the first time, Matra will be mass-producing the missiles. Until now, its maximum order for a missile like the Magic was for approximately 5,500 units. But with the new short-range missile, which now has only four already out-dated American and British competitors, production should reach at least 10,000 units. Finally, the Velizy firm is satisfied to have broken into the very exclusive circle of suppliers of the land forces, where until now, SNIAS almost had a monopoly. This new market offers good prospects for export. The new missile, which will be ready for delivery in 1985, could produce roughly 1 billion francs annually for Matra. Which should silence gossip about the fragility of firms in military markets! [Text] [Paris LE MATIN in French 10 Sep 80 p 8] 9174

CSO: 3100

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION REMAINS STAGNANT

Athens I KATHIMERINI in Greek 24 Sep 80 p 7

[Text] Industrial production is being strongly squeezed by the economic recession; the increase in production during the entirety of 1980 will be, at the best, 2.4 percent, but stagnancy is being depicted as the most possible case. This emerges from analyses and estimates of the appropriate service which, after verifying that the slackening in industry is due to restricted demand, forecasts that: in the second six months, there will be a greater retardation of industrial production; there is a depression in industrial exports and an increase in industrial investments is doubtful.

More analytically, the appropriate service's estimates are as follows:

The industrial production index in the first six months of 1980 was stagnant (+0.2 percent), versus an 8.3 percent increase in the same period of 1979. Thus, the first available data on industrial production clarify the effect of the policy of restricted demand—both private demand, because of the decrease in disposable income and high interest rates, and public demand, particularly investment expenditures which have been significantly restricted compared to those which had been estimated. Based on the exchange statistics, demand for exported industrial products was also decreased by 1.9 percent during January to March 1980. It is expected that these developments will lead to stagnancy or, hopefully, a limited rise in industrial production in 1980, an estimate which is supported by the six-month seasonally adjusted data. According to these data, production shows a 1.9 percent rise (June 1980/December 1979), a percentage which corresponds to a yearly rate of 3.8 percent and an average-level rise of 2.4 percent.

It is noted that approximately the same yearly rate of increase (3.6 percent) was also observed during the first six months of 1979, while the increase realized in the average yearly level was 6.1 percent. The smaller rate of average-level increase (2.4 percent) estimated for 1980 is influenced by the fact that the estimated production levels for the second six months of 1980 are compared to the corresponding high levels of 1979. But it is also believed that a 2.4 percent rise can be realized with difficulty because of developments in real disposable income which influences domestic demand.

Production in the consumer goods branches was decreased in the first six months of 1980 by 2.6 percent (food -2.7 percent, textiles -2.8 percent); if the decrease in real disposable income, wages, etc. estimated for 1980 is considered, it is

possible that the average level of their production will be decreased by 2.4 percent as is calculated on the basis of seasonally adjusted data.

In the same period, production of durable consumer goods noted a significant increase (15.6 percent) versus the stagnancy in the same period of 1979 (0.9 percent increase). This rise is not in step with the development in the volume of retail sales of goods in this category which decreased by 3.9 percent in the same period. This development leads to the conclusion that significant stockpiling is being carried out which means that production of durable goods is probably going to be decreased in the second six months of 1980.

Finally, production of capital goods was increased by 2.1 percent in the first six months, versus a 7.9 percent increase in the same period of 1979. It is thought that an increase on this order will probably be maintained in the second six months also; it will be based principally on exports of a sufficient number of products, as appears from data based on the exchange statistics for the first three months of 1980 (chemicals 35 percent, machines and conveyances 64 percent, items made of metal 11 percent and iron-steel 23.7 percent).

The tendency for stockpiling observed in 1979 appears to be declining for the current year. Indicative of this development is the decrease in the discrepancy between the rates of change in industrial production and the indicator of retail sales volume. Thus, while in 1979 production was increased by 6.1 percent and retail sales were decreased by 2.3 percent, in the first six months of 1980, production remained stagnant (+0.2 percent) and retail sales were decreased by 3.6 percent.

This fact is indicative of the continuing gradual adjustment of production to the lower level of demand but also of the behavior of businessmen in reaction to declining inflationary expectations for the second six months of 1980.

Exports

Based on exchange statistics, industrial exports were decreased by 1.9 percent in the first three months of 1980, versus a 41.4 percent increase in the corresponding period of 1979, while total exports for the same period were decreased by 5.8 percent, versus a 39.0 percent increase in the first three months of 1979.

Especially contributing to the decrease in industrial exports were petroleum products (-60.1 percent), products for basic metallurgic industries, aside from iron-steel-iron sheets (-29.6 percent) and, less, agricultural industrial products (-4.4 percent) and textiles (-1.3 percent).

On the other hand, exported industrial products which increased were chemicals (+35.5 percent), cement (+8.2 percent) and machines and conveyances (+64.5 percent).

Investments

Investments in manufacturing were increased in 1979 at fixed prices by 9.6 percent; for 1980, an increase of about the same percentage is considered possible. It is noted, however, that developments in the short-term indicators of investment activity in manufacturing up to May 1980 do not provide indications about a continuing increase in industrial investments in 1980.

BANKING SYSTEM, CHANGES REPORTED

Athens I KATHIMERINI in Greek 20 Sep 80 p 7

[Text] The freeing of interest rates which will be realized gradually beginning 1 January 1981 is certainly combined with the freeing of the entire banking system, stated Minister Without Portfolio Ioan. Palaiochrassas. The minister made this statement in answer to a question asked by journalists because of the announcements made on 18 September by the governor of the National Bank concerning the subject of freeing interest rates. Khristodoulou's viewpoints, said the minister, are absolutely within the spirit of the policy followed by the government which aims at freeing the entire credit system and transferring the responsibility for its operation totally to the banks' administrations. The monetary authorities will maintain control of only certain basic elements, such as the banks' liquidity (and naturally, through this, they will influence credit extension) and regional distribution of branch-offices.

Actually, continued Palaiochrassas, one of the basic elements of the new system is that the commercial banks are henceforth made responsible for their results. Conversely, with today's system, in which the cost of procuring money, but also income from its investment, are determined by the monetary authorities, the commercial banks have not been responsible for their results.

Restrictions on the establishment of branch-offices, which have been set heretofore by the monetary authorities, are made both for regional reasons and because the commercial banks had a tendency to open new branch-offices irregardless of their productivity. Now, with the new system in which the banks will be responsible for their results, it is natural for these restrictions to be lifted since the establishment of new branch-offices will occur after a preceding study of their effectiveness.

Palaiochrassas called to mind, moreover, that parallel to the freeing of interest rates and the banking system, a money market will be created from which the public and the special credit organizations will draw funds. However, since in this market both the supply and demand of money will be controlled, it is natural for interest rates to be set at logical cost levels. Indeed, the public will draw lower interest rates than the special credit organizations because of the government's strong credit position.

At the opportunity of discussing the whole issue, the minister stressed again that freeing the banking system will offer, in addition, a greater competitiveness to

Greek banks and, contrary to what is maintained by various circles, it is not going to strengthen the role of foreign banks in our country. The Greek banks will henceforth be in a position to compete with foreign banks, not only in the sector of serving customers but also in the sector of interest rates, as has already begun to happen with interest rates for deposits in foreign exchange, for which our banks offered higher interest rates and thus significantly increased their deposits in foreign exchange.

The Greek banks, with the intensive efforts which they have made in recent years in the sector of organization with special machines and, generally, introduction of new systems, are found, in many cases, in a position far more advanced than many foreign banks.

In general, ended the minister, competitiveness in the banking system can do nothing other than prove to be beneficial to both the transactors and the economy.

As concerns the progress of the new system's application, it was made known that the government is waiting for submission of the findings of the committee which had been formed for this purpose (the committee is working intensively in cooperation with the commercial banks); it then will proceed to adoption of a time chart for gradual application of the entire system of freeing interest rates.

9247

CSO: 4908

NEW PROCEDURES FOR PASSPORT ISSUANCE REPORTED

Athens TO VIMA in Greek 24 Sep 80 p 1

[Article by N. Krikis: "Passports Acquire Ten-Year Validity"]

[Text] By decree of the Ministry of the Interior which has been sent for signing to the president of the republic, two innovations of fundamental importance for passports are being instituted and a strict procedure for issuance of a new passport in case of loss of the old one is being enacted.

More specifically: First, the possibility of extending the five-year validity of passports for another five years is being provided, so that these passports essentially become valid for ten years. Presently, at the end of a passport's validity, a new one is issued. There is no possibility of extending or renewing it. Extension of the validity will occur without any formalities, aside from the provided payment for fees and the stamp.

Second, renewal or extension of the passport's validity, as well as any change in the data on the passport (change in family status, addition of a member or change in other data), can be done by mail, without the interested party having to appear in person as is required today.

In case of loss of the passport, an administrative examination to verify whether the declaration about the loss is true or not is provided for issuance of a new passport because the appropriate services from the Ministry of the Interior have found that, in many cases, declarations of loss were insincere. Those interested for customs reasons and, specifically, in order to not disclose the importing of certain items, declared that they lost their passport and were furnished with a new one. In other cases, suspicion had been created that the interested party sold his passport in some European city for 600 dollars.

In more detail, the decree regulates the formalities, validity in terms of time and locale, and supporting documents required for issuance of passports as follows:

Individual and family passports are valid for all countries in the world and for many round trips. Group passports are valid for all countries in the world but for only one round trip.

Individual passports are valid for five years, family passports for two years and group passports for three months.

Issuance of passports (individual) valid for less than five years is allowed in only two cases: to minors to whom they are issued for one to five years, in accordance with the consent of the person exercising paternal authority, and to individuals between 22 and 35 years of age who have not fulfilled their military obligations.

On family passports are included only the spouse and children up to 19 years of age. Persons included on a family passport are required to travel all together.

Whatever is in force for extension of the validity and renewal of the five-year validity of passports is in force correspondingly for passports issued for two years.

Replacement of a passport before end of its validity is allowed if its pages have been filled up, if there have been serious changes in the holder's personal situation, or if distortions in the photograph and deterioration of the passport are found.

Application and supporting documents for the initial issuance of a passport are presented to the service in person by the interested party or by a legally authorized representative.

9247
CSO: 4908

PVDA'S DEN UYL ASKS CDA TO CHANGE POLICIES

Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 20 Sep 80 p 2

[Text] Opposition leader J.M. Den Uyl (PvdA) demands that the CDA [Christian Democratic Appeal] clearly renounce the government's plans for next year. This morning in a meeting of his party in Groningen he said: "Cooperation with the CDA in a new government will only be possible if the CDA shows that it favors a distinctly different policy."

One of the things Den Uyl demands of the CDA is that it force the government to establish an employment policy. "In its present management there is no mention whatsoever of plans to fight unemployment."

The socialist leader also asked the CDA to fight "onesided pressure on low incomes" which according to him, is inherent in the government's plans.

The leader of the PvdA [Labor Union] faction in the Second Chamber fought also against the continued growth of defense expenses. According to Den Uyl the government contributes in this manner to--what he calls--"a perilous tendency to seek a solution to unemployment by stepping up defense expenses."

He also accused the government of rendering discussions with the social partners more meaningless all the time by contradictory pronouncements about possible actions concerning wages and the use of extra revenue from natural gas.

Den Uyl said this morning in Groningen: "The government is confused. It does not make sense any more."

Van Agt

Yesterday evening Van Agt defended himself against criticism of the government's plans for next year. He called such criticism utterly unreasonable. According to the prime minister critics who accuse the

government of failure to rule fail to appreciate the open discussions the government wants to conduct with the social partners about the required retrenchment policy for 1981.

Van Agt called the criticism of these open consultations inconceivable after the "fabulous criticism" (his own words) the government had to take because of its previous unilateral action concerning wages. "We are now giving a chance to all participants and are doing exactly what we were asked to do before."

The prime minister said that he himself had noticed positive reactions to the government's policy statement read by the Queen and the budget of the minister of finance. He stated: "Not all the seed fell on stony ground." But he described his own position as that of a person "forced to sit on a chair with barbed wire on the seat."

Van Agt said that the federal budget for 1981 as presented this week by the government is "really the only budget that could have been put together." In this respect he pointed to the fringe conditions the society has imposed.

Van Agt included in these fringe conditions the relationship between social minimums and minimum wages as required by the Second Chamber, maintaining the relationship between economic indicators and salaries of civil servants as demanded by the labor movement and leaving the employment situation as undisturbed as possible. "These conditions determine federal expenses to a very considerable degree," according to Van Agt.

10319

CSO: 3105

GOVERNMENT SEEKS SOLUTION TO COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

CDA Seeks Tax Cut

The Hague ALGEMEEN NEDERLANDS PERSEBUREAU in English 8 Oct 80 Morning pp 1,2

[Excerpts] The Hague, October 7 - The Christian Democrats (DCA) today called for a two-billion-guilder tax cut to preserve the spending power of people who according to a CDA plan are to forego full automatic cost-of-living adjustment on January 1.

The leader of the government's mainstay in parliament, Mr Ruud Lubbers, proposed abolition of full cost-of-living adjustments on the opening day of a three-day debate in the second chamber on the 1981 state budget.

The CDA plan will cost the treasury two billion guilders. Mr Lubbers suggested that half the sum could come from raising the financing deficit and the other half by introducing a special value added tax (VAT) rate of, say, 10%, for luxuries and energy-gobbling appliances.

The operation could be supplemented by shifting some articles from the low four per cent to the high 18% VAT rate and by raising indirect taxes and excises, Mr Lubbers proposed.

Unspecified Ceiling

To spare the lowest income brackets as far as possible, Mr Lubbers urged the government to drop plans, as outlined in the budget, to increase the lowest VAT rate from four to 4.5%.

He called for an unspecified ceiling on cost-of-living wage adjustments and for a ceiling, of say 5,000 guilders gross, on holiday allowances paid to workers before the summer holidays.

In a third proposal to spare the lowest income brackets he called for a reduction in their national labour disability insurance (WAO) premium.

Mr Lubbers welcomed cabinet plans to use the 1.3 billion guilders in extra natural gas revenues, negotiated with foreign buyers, to strengthen the country's economic structure.

But he urged the government to form a 3.5-billion-guilder fund to improve the employment structure. The 1.3 billion guilders already allocated for sectoral and innovation policy as well as money raised by wage restraint could finance a comprehensive package of specific and across-the-board measures, he said.

He demanded that the government end the existing uncertainty about the deductibility of interest paid on mortgage loans for income tax purposes by setting a definite limit at 400,000 guilders.

Mr Lubbers dissented with the government on only one major point of policy. He rejected the education budget in its present form although he endorsed the underlying concept that the quality of education and employment were to be preserved at the expense of teachers' pay.

VVD

Liberal VVD floor leader Koos Rietkerk urged the government to halve holiday allowances pointing out that this could lead to a fall of 50,000 in unemployment in the medium term and to a 4.5% rise in company investments.

Warning that the train of prosperity was gathering momentum down hill, he called for a re-evaluation of public sector spending, measures to cut back absenteeism and stricter resort to the principle that the user pays. [as published]

He did not oppose 'incidental' pay cuts for civil servants on condition that the link between their pay and wages earned in industry was not severed.

He opposed any efforts to change a cabinet decision to use the extra natural gas revenues to strengthen the position of enterprises.

D'66

Mr Jan Terlouw, floor leader of the opposition Democrats '66 party, said it was evident the cabinet was not providing solutions to the country's most serious economic crisis since World War II and should resign in the nation's interest.

The D'66 leader called for maintenance of the existing linkage between the incomes of the country's working and the idle population groups.

Every effort should also be made to preserve the spending power of the lowest income brackets, he said, adding that such efforts would be doomed

to failure if the number of social security recipients were not stabilised.

He discounted the possibility of creating many new jobs in the welfare sector in the years ahead because the government did not have the necessary funds. He said this only left industry as a source for employment.

The gradual reduction in employment in industry over the past 10 years should be turned round by a new industrialisation policy.

In the event of failure to maintain the purchasing power of the lowest income brackets it might become necessary, according to D'66, not to compensate them for higher energy prices.

No Consensus Among Parties

The Hague ALGEMEEN NEDERLANDS PERSEBUREAU in English 8 Oct 80 Afternoon pp 1,2

[Text] The Hague, October 8 - The government today enters the second chambers' general political debates which on the opening yesterday produced no consensus on how the country's economic problems are to be solved.

Prime Minister Dries van Agt, whose cabinet is supported by only a slender majority in parliament, is faced with two government coalition parties who want to cure the economy in different ways.

The mainstay Christian Democrats (CDA) want to slash next year's wage bill by cancelling the full cost-of-living wage adjustment for once on January 1 and giving workers a tax cut to preserve their existing spending power.

But their junior Liberal VVD coalition partners called instead for a drastic cut in public spending, describing this as the only way to prevent the economy from crashing down the precipice.

The parliamentary stalemate was made complete by the main opposition Labour party which, like the CDA, wants to raise next year's financing deficit by one billion guilders but wants to spend the sum in a different way.

Labour wants to use the money to finance a three-billion-guilder package of measures aimed at fighting unemployment, now running at a post-war record of 269,000.

Paper's Comment

The Dutch press was generally agreed today that the opening day of the debates had painfully demonstrated the political reason for the depressive mood and feeling of impotence which have characterised the Netherlands of late.

The Protestant newspaper TROUW said floor leaders Ruud Lubbers (CDA), Joop den Uyl, (Labour) and Koos Rietkerk (VVD) had frankly admitted that the three main crosscurrents in Dutch politics have their own views on how the economy should be righted.

However the views largely clash with each other and this is leading to an impasse which threatens to paralyse politics. 'There are plans enough but there is no policy.'

The left-wing DE VOLKSKRANT said the debates made clear that the government is unable to muster a majority in parliament for its plan to raise the minimum value added tax rate from four to 4-1/2%.

The paper said this also applied to its controversial plan no longer to reimburse married women for the old age pension premiums they pay and its plan to cut back teachers' salaries by an extra 265 million guilders.

The Liberal newspaper ALGEMEEN DAGBLAD said in an editorial, headed 'no crisis, no unity', that the CDA plan was repugnant to their Liberal coalition partners because it would boost the financing deficit by one billion guilders.

The paper said there appeared to be a remarkable consensus on the first day on the need to cut next year's holiday allowances.

It further noted that CDA floor leader Lubbers took the heat off two subjects which could have caused the downfall of the Van Agt cabinet-- a unilateral oil embargo against South Africa and a limit on the deductibility of interest paid on mortgage loans for income tax purposes.

CSO: 3120

DUTCH GOVERNMENT STUDIES SURINAME'S TREATY REQUEST

The Hague ALGEMEEN NEDERLANDS PERSBUREAU in English 3 Oct 80 pp 1, 2

[Text] The Hague, October 3--The Dutch government is studying a Surinam request for early talks on the country's most pressing social and economic problem--the mass exodus of Surinamese and the return of expatriates, a foreign ministry spokesman said.

The request was made by Surinam's deputy premier Andre Haakmat when he met Dutch Development Cooperation Minister Jan de Koning in New York this week in the margin of the U.N. general assembly.

Mr Haakmat told Mr De Koning that Surinam wished to get two bilateral treaties which will expire on November 25 replaced by two new treaties.

One of the treaties, which dates from Surinam's independence five years ago, regulates the admission of Surinamese into the Netherlands. The second deals with the Dutch military mission in Paramaribo, capital of Surinam.

Mr De Koning told our correspondent in New York that the Surinam request for two new treaties had come to him as a surprise.

Unilateral Move

More than 150,000 Surinamese--more than a third of the country's population--have settled in the Netherlands since the country became independent in November 1975.

To stem the flow the Netherlands introduced visas for Surinam nationals last month, a unilateral move which the Netherlands says does not violate the terms of the 1975 treaty which allow for access to the Netherlands on easy terms.

When the treaty expires next month Surinamese will be subject to the normal aliens laws in the Netherlands including its clauses regulating family reunions and its 'very liberal' provisions for those who want to study in the Netherlands, Mr De Koning said.

The minister told our correspondent in New York that it would be inhuman to isolate the Surinamese from the Netherlands. Apart from the South Africans they were the only people abroad who speak Dutch.

However, he described the settlement of Surinamese in the Netherlands as a 'major disaster' which had thrown back Surinam's development an entire generation.

Mr Haakmat said he failed to understand why the Netherlands had introduced visas for Surinamese after Surinam had made proposals to solve the problem and after his government's strenuous efforts to encourage the return of expatriates.

He said the Surinam government had formed a commission on Monday to prepare for talks with the Netherlands on the migration problem. He had asked Mr De Koning to use his influence in the Dutch cabinet to get the talks started by mid-October.

The treaty dealing with the Dutch military mission in Paramaribo will be extended by one year on November 25 under a bilateral agreement initiated last month. The agreement provides for further one-year extensions at a time if tacitly approved.

CSO: 3120

BRIEFS

ANTIMILITARISTS PROTEST AGAINST NATO--Members of the antimilitary group Onkrut [Weeds] blocked the federal highway between Eindhoven and Venlo on two occasions by burning tires and bales of straw to protest the Crusader '80 NATO maneuvers. Within the framework of these war games about 2,000 British vehicles moved last week via highway E-3 from Belgium in the direction of Germany. Yesterday evening at about 1830 about 40 demonstrators threw burning tires from the Meuse bridge near Venlo on the road. Traffic was interrupted for over an hour. Last night at about 0300 about 30 persons erected a barricade of burning tires and bales of straw on the federal highway near Geldrop just before a British column was about to arrive. It was slightly delayed. In both instances the demonstrators disappeared before the police arrived. A spokesman for Onkrut talked about "a burning protest" against military exercises of NATO and the Warsaw Pact held this month. [Text] [Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 15 Sep 80 p 1] 10319

D'66: EARLIER ELECTION NECESSARY--The deputy faction leader of D'66 [Democrats 1966] in the Second Chamber, L.J. Brinkhorst, states that because of failures in crucial areas the government is inevitably forced to hold earlier elections. Brinkhorst said this yesterday in a meeting of his party in Zwolle. He argued that earlier elections should clear the way for a cabinet with a broad base which, according to him, would indeed be capable of tackling the big economic problems. He expressed the opinion that "the present cabinet, more inclined to just sit than to act, will not be able to do so." The D'66 leader predicted that completion of the present cabinet term by the CDA [Christian Democratic Appeal], VVD [Union of Freedom and Democracy] government coalition will inevitably lead to further confrontation between the CDA and VVD, on the one hand, and the PvdA [Labor Party] and D'66 on the other hand. He added: "This policy would not be in the interest of the nation." Brinkhorst wants an explanation from the CDA on short notice whether it accepts full responsibility for the present government policies. He believes himself that the CDA with 10 ministers and 10 state secretaries is mainly responsible for the present failures. [Text] [Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 18 Sep 80 p 3] 10319

LABOR PARTY PAPER PREVIEWS FALL SESSION OF PARLIAMENT

LD021007 Oslo ARBEIDERBLADET in Norwegian 30 Sep 80 p 6

[Report by Per-Arne Bjerke: "Storting Reopens; Tougher Atmosphere for Fall Session"]

[Text] We will probably see a tougher political atmosphere in the Storting when it begins its fall session this week. With only a year to go before the election the parties need very much to define their positions, and this will set its stamp on the debates in the coming months. We had a preview of this in the spring when on several occasions the Conservative Party in particular slammed the government and the Labor Party.

As usual it is the finance committee and the treatment of the national budget which will attract most attention in the first few weeks. Politically, it will be interesting to see whether the nonsocialist opposition will this time be able to present an alternative to the government's budget proposal. The Center Party, the Christian People's Party and the Conservative Party have had great problems in recent years in agreeing on the budget, last year [word illegible] to the Labor Party, they ought now to show that [they] can reach agreement on a joint budget proposal.

But the question is whether the parties of the center will not have difficulty this year, too, swallowing the Conservative Party's economic policy. The taxation debate this spring showed that the parties of the center were closer to the Labor Party than to the conservatives. It would also be natural for the parties of the center to support several of the principles that form the basis of the government's economic plans for next year, to judge by what the parties have said in the past on the subject of economic policy.

It is not only here that the opposition could have problems with unity. This fall the Storting will deal with the energy review. In the industry committee's recommendations the nonsocialist parties' views show considerable variation. It is also probable that the energy review will be dealt with together with Protective Plan 2 for Norwegian watercourses.

On the whole there are many industrial issues on which the Storting will reach decisions during the fall. One of these concerns activities on the continental shelf. It is also probable that the results of exploratory

drilling in the north will also be included here. It is further likely that the Storting will debate the accident commission's report on the Alexander Kielland disaster.

The Storting will also debate the alcohol policy review, an issue where the Conservative Party in particular has shown marked opposition to the changes which the government is proposing concerning the production and sale of beer. The proposal to set up a children's ombudsman is another of the issues facing the Storting representatives. This proposal has been received with reservation by large section of the opposition.

It will in other words be a busy fall with several important issues on the agenda for the elected representatives to get to work on. But first and foremost it will be a session dominated by economic policy with the labor and conservatives parties as the principal protagonists.

CSO: 3108

POLL SHOWS 58 PERCENT FAVOR PRESTOCKAGE IN COUNTRY

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 27 Sep 80 p 3

[Article by Egil Sundar: "Definite Majority Favors Prestockage"]

[Text] A definite majority of the Norwegian people believes in prestockage of allied heavy equipment in Norway. According to an opinion poll conducted by the Norwegian Public Poll Institute [NOI] for AFTENPOSTEN this week, a total of 58 percent favor prestockage--34 percent are against. An overwhelming majority (72-10) think that Norwegian forces in north Norway cannot resist an attack until help arrives with less prestocked allied equipment. This opinion was especially strong among people in the northernmost part of the country; the people, who more than most others, feel "the ultimatum closer to home." According to the opinion poll, 60 percent of the people agree that if we don't prestock allied equipment, it would be tantamount to weakening our NATO-membership.

Even though prestockage has wide support among the population, it is, on the other hand, interesting to note that every third Norwegian is opposed to measures which can make it possible for Norway to receive allied assistance during crisis or during wartime. The opposition to prestocking is greatest among women (42 percent).

Another interesting feature of the opinion poll is that a great majority of those opposed to prestockage, think we are unable to resist an attack.

Few of those who are against prestockage believe we can resist an attack, even with prestockage in Trondelag or North Norway.

This week's opinion polling should be considered in connection with a NOI-survey made in June, when 68 percent answered that they believed we would overcome before help arrived. Only 27 percent believed that the Defense Force is strong enough to defend Norwegian territory until our allies can come to the rescue.

The NOI posed the following question in a telephone survey last Wednesday:

"With regard to the question of prestocking allied equipment in Norway, do you think it should be stored in north Norway, in Trondelag, or do you think that such equipment should not be stored here at all?"

Forty percent said it should be stocked in north Norway, 10 percent in Trondelag, 8 percent in both north Norway and Trondelag, while 34 percent thought such equipment should not be stocked at all. Eight percent were undecided. Of the people who favored prestockage in north Norway, 47 percent were men and 33 percent women.

With regard to the administration's proposal of prestockage in Trondelag, the survey shows, however, that this proposal is only supported by 10 percent (13 percent men and 8 percent women). This is quite thought provoking.

Of the opponents of prestockage, in general, there are 27 percent men and 42 percent women.

With regard to the possibilities of resisting an attack on north Norway without prestockage, there is very little optimism among most Norwegians. The NOI posed the question:

"Do you think Norwegian forces in north Norway can resist an attack until help arrives if there is no prestockage of allied equipment?"

Seventy-two percent answered no, 10 percent yes. Eighteen percent were undecided. Of those who said no, 76 percent were men and 69 percent women. The No-percentage increased by 70 percent from the Ostlandet; by 73 percent to the Sorlandet and Vestlandet; and by 77 percent to More, Trondelag and North Norway. In North Norway 86 percent think it would be impossible to resist an attack there without prestockage of allied combat materiel.

According to the opinion poll, 44 percent answered yes to the question whether they think Norwegian forces in North Norway can resist an attack until help arrives, if there is prestockage of allied equipment in North Norway. Twenty-five percent think that this would be possible if the prestockage is situated in Trondelag.

NOI finally posed the question: "It is maintained that it would be tantamount to weakening our NATO-membership if we do not prestock allied equipment. Do you or don't you agree to that?"

Sixty percent agreed, 26 percent disagreed. Thirteen percent were undecided.

9583
CSO: 3108

POLL SHOWS BOTH LABOR AND CONSERVATIVE PARTIES DOWN

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 27 Sep 80 p 3

[Text] Gallup Political Barometer

The 1.3 percent drop of the Conservative Party is the strongest deflection of Gallup's political barometer for August. The Labor Party has "lost" 0.5 percent, probably to the Socialist-Left Party: This party observes an increase of 0.9 percent. These two socialist parties have strengthened their situation somewhat from an earlier polling in June, compared to the three largest nonsocialist parties.

Norway's Marketing Data has measured the Conservative Party's following to be 27.1 for August against 28.4 for June. In other words, the party continues to remain far removed from the Storting-election results in 1977, when it received 24.8 percent. Now the Christian People's Party has again received 11.4 percent, while the Center Party registers an increase from 0.6 to 8.3 percent. Their total support is 46.8 percent.

Jointly they still have a clear margin over the Labor Party and the Socialist-Left Party.

Among the smallest nonsocialist parties, a drop of 0.6 percent is registered for the Progressive Party.

The Polling Institute reports that all movements from June to August lie well within the statistical margins of error, aside perhaps from the Socialist-Left Party. The barometer indicates no significant tendency changes.

[illegible]

KEY :

- | 1) Storting elections | 2) County Board elections | 3) Radical Liberal | 4) Labor Party |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 5) Norway's Communist Party | 6) Socialist-Left Party | 7) Progressive Party | 8) Liberal People's Party |
| 9) Conservative Party | 10) Christian People's Party | 11) Center Party | 12) Liberal Party |
| 13) Other | 14) Total | 15) Response to party preference | 16) Total number of people polled |
- 17) The barometer is the result of each party being weighed against the 1977 Storting elections. The calculated statistical limits or error can be 3 percent for a voting population of near 50 percent, approximately 2 percent for a voting population of 10-20 percent, and close to 1 percent for lower voting population. The polling was conducted during the period 18 August to 10 September.

Oslo, 27 September 1980
NORGES MARKEDSDATA A/S

QUESTIONS AT SHIPPING TALKS WITH USSR VIEWED

LD011449 Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 30 Sep 80 p 31

[Report by Kjell Dragnes: "Soviet Ships Are Taking Over Norwegian-USSR Trade"]

[Text] Moscow, 29 Sep--The Norwegian share of the transport of goods between Norway and the Soviet Union by ship has now shrunk to only 5 percent. This trend was one of the topics discussed at the meeting of the mixed Norwegian-Soviet Shipping Commission that ended in Moscow on Friday.

Norway's share of the sea traffic between the two countries has fallen drastically in the last few years. As recently as 1976 it was 24 percent. The Norwegian delegation pointed out that the Soviet Union could compensate for this through increased use of Norwegian ships for other freight, for example in fields where Norway has a considerable lead with special ships, such as gas tankers, chemical freighters, and so forth....

One of the reasons why the Norwegian share of traffic has shrunk so much is that since Afghanistan the Soviet Union has had surplus tonnage. Trade with individual countries, the United States in particular, has dropped, and others who in the past have made use of Soviet ships have not been willing to continue to do so. Therefore, the Russians have started using their own ships in the traffic with the Scandinavian countries, for example.

The shipping commission meeting did not uncover any other major controversial questions. Norway and the Soviet Union take a similar view of several matters, including protectionist measures on the part of certain countries. This could lead to less than rational use of the world's fleets, and damage trade economically.

Both countries are also greatly concerned to solve the problem of so-called low-standard ships, ships whose rates are low, whose crews have poor living conditions and where the technical and safety standards are also low.

The Soviet Union is also opposed to flags of convenience, and wants to have the possibility of registering ships in countries with favorable tax regulations discontinued.

The Norwegian participants at the commission meeting, under the leadership of Ministry Secretary Asbojoern Skarstein, also had the impression that the problem of dumping had diminished. The Soviet Union has been repeatedly accused of offering rates that were too low for regular scheduled sailings, for which they had already signed agreements. The subject was, however, not raised at the commission meeting. But the Russians are making big investments in the modernization of their fleet, and a number of ships that have been in service on routes which have been mentioned in connection with dumping, have been withdrawn from service. The Soviet Union is also interested in being allowed to take part in scheduling conferences that fix rates and agreements. The problem is how large a share of the cargoes the Russians want.

CSO: 3108

BRIEFS

GERHARDSSEN NOW FOR PRESTOCKAGE--The debate about allied military prestockage continues, and this week the former prime minister and party leader Einar Gerhardsen also showed his true colors. Such prestockage in mid-Norway is of a defensive nature and not a basis for military actions. In reality it gives us great security, said Gerhardsen in an address he gave in Haugesund. In an address, Defense Minister Thorvald Stoltenberg has also emphasized the consideration of our security and the defensive character of the equipment. All weapons are short-range. [Text] [Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 27 Sep 80 p 3] 9583

PARTIES ON ABORTION ISSUE--Earlier the Conservative Party and the Christian People's Party presented a draft for an election platform for the coming Storting period. This week the Center Party and the Liberal Party followed suit. After the central steering committee meeting in the Christian People's Party Wednesday, the party's leader, Kare Kristiansen, used the opportunity to bring forth a new demand on the abortion issue to the Conservative Party. The Center Party is also against unrestricted abortion, but the Liberal Party suggests that on such issue the woman should make the decision herself. The Liberal Party continues to be divided on the NATO-issue. [Text] [Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 27 Sep 80 p 3] 9583

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11/10/80 DM